

Pocahontas County Historical Museum
Route 219 South
Marlinton, West Virginia 24954

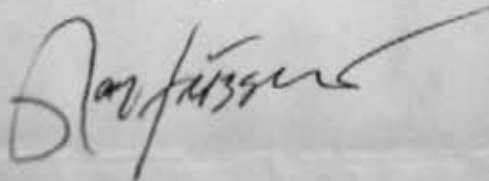
Dear Pocahontas County Museum,

My name is Ray Fitzgerald, and I am from a small town in Western Pennsylvania. I have recently acquired several items from the area of Marlinton, that I thought you, or someone locally, may be interested in purchasing. Here are some of the items that came from the town of Locust, West Virginia from a lumber company located there called the Spice Run Lumber Company, James Flynn, owner.

1. 21 Stock Certificates of the Lumber Company
2. 118 Gold Bond Certificates of the Lumber Co.
3. Numerous receipts from local merchants of the area from around the 1917 era.

I believe this Lumber Company was put into receivership and the assets and liabilities were purchased by a local bank, Brookville Title and Trust Company. I am interested in selling ALL these items as one. If I would put them on E-Bay they would probably realize from ~~25~~ \$5.00 to \$ 10.00 each for the Stock and Gold Certificates. If you, or any one in the area would be interested in them as a package, I would sell them for \$ 150.00, plus postage to keep them together. I will probably be traveling through your area in the late spring, or early summer, so I could bring them along for your review. I am enclosing a certificate of each, so you can look at them. You need not return them, even if you do not want to purchase. I will donate the two certificates to your museum. Thank You.

Sincerely,
Ray Fitzgerald
RD # 1, Box 521-A
Brookville, Pa. 15825
Phone: 814-849-4058
E-Mail calcabin@penn.com



INCORPORATED UNDER THE LAWS

OF THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA



AUTHORIZED CAPITAL

\$100,000.00

This is to Certify that *Alfred Caldwell*
is the owner of *Fifty* OF THE CAPITAL STOCK OF *Shares*

SPICE RUN LUMBER COMPANY

OF CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA.



transferable only on the books of the Corporation by the holder hereof
in person or by Attorney upon surrender of this Certificate properly endorsed.
In Witness Whereof, the said Corporation has caused this Certificate to be
signed by its duly authorized officers and is witnessed with the Seal of the Corporation
At Charleston, W. Va., this *6th* day of *December*, *1912*.

Amos H. Hyman SECRETARY

James F. Hyman PRESIDENT

SHARES

\$100

EACH

another Lumber Company
not large but not small.
Williams and Pifer Lumber Co.
They had a large store
in the Building across
from the Opera House.
They sold Groceries and
a good line of clothing
one famous brand of shoes
A. H. Cutlers loggers wore.
used Rich Clothes. This
company moved a large
circular saw mill out
in the Woodrow Area
located on the John T
Isaacs Home place.

Their operation went up
Fuels Run which had
virgin timber mostly hard
wood. They had a narrow
Gage Rail Road with
a small steam engine, log car

made several trips a day.

I have been told that they cut as much as 23 thousand feet a day. That is a lot of lumber for a circular mill to cut.

I believe this company moved out there 1922 or 1923. Not sure. It was during the Roaring Twenties. Times were good lots of good hard work. My dad Sumner Gifford was a logging contractor. He had two teams of horses and logged for them.

They had a large pond where they rolled their logs in it to get the mud out and gravel out of the bark that would dull their teeth. ^{32 AW} That ~~was~~ ^{they} could be

taken out and replaced if broken, with a special tool. or would wear out.

These logs were pulled out of the pond and onto a flat farm then rolled on to a Carriage. If a log turned a man rode the Carriage who was called a Block setter. He sized ~~the~~ ~~size~~ of the thickness of the lumber. The Sawyer was a capable man who had to get the best grades out of a log. He gave signs to the Block setter for sizes. If a Sawyer could not saw good grades he could cost a company a fortune. I remember the late Lawrence, Mr Kenney, and also Joe, brothers were both Sawyers, other capable men operated the

the mill was ^{called} off beaver who took the slabs and the lumber from the ^{big} saw. an rollers out to the cut off saw. slabs were cut in racks to fire the Boiler. the lumber trimmed and length.

determent. the edgerman played an important part. some lumber from the big saw still had bark on them and had to be edged. The man that fired the boiler was very important, he had to keep steam. seems it was ~~thunder~~ and fifty pounds to run the big steam engine to drive that big circular saw and all the other saws a lot of power. other workers Mr ^{Burd} ~~Burd~~ White who lived at Cambeltown. I believe was the saw filer a lot of saws to file on a sarnill. his daughter

mable McNeil, lives at Hillsboro. She
 filled me in on some things about
 here farther. you did not hear much
 about electricity back then in
 this part of the country, so
 they had to depend on black-
 smith welding. Jack McNeill
 was a good Blacksmith. and was
 the Camps man. This company
 had great stacks of lumber
 and sticks as it was called.
 probably 60 days of lumber
 drying. They had a lumber
 camp and where they cooked
 for the camp crew. also
 a small store where you
 could buy groceries, flour and
 the like. Now to the transportation
 of the lumber to martinton, it
 was by Draft Horse power. lots of
 Lumber Haulers on wagons. and in
 the winter by sleds. the Roads

were covered all the way to
Marlinton. ^{with snow} my grandfather John
Galford was a master sled builder
and a good blacksmith. sleds
had to be built to haul big
loads of lumber. not everyone
could build goat ones. Laurel
Creek had a lot of swamp land.

cull lumber was not worth much
They laid down two stringers
and nailed lumber on them
and they had a good road.

my dad had finished logging
and helped to haul lumber to
town. I was a small skinny
kid not too well padded to sit
on hard wood lumber all the way
to town. It was adventure for me.
Woodrow mountain was steep and
would push a team of horses badly &
no one had brakes built on them
that worked with what was called

a back lever with a pulley and a rope. big draft horses could hold back a lot of weight.

Stoney Creek had only one bridge an if it was at the fish Hatchery that was torn down not too many years ago. maybe a bridge at Campetown. There was a bridge built on dry Run 1924. the late Frank Baxter was the engineer ~~for~~ when it was built I remember it had a bronze plaque under it with his name on it.

lumber haulers came in town unloaded their lumber and hitched their horses where the little park is at the end of the bridge.

They had nose bags with a strap went over their heads that they ate their oats from.

George Lightner had a good Restaurant

where the malcolm ^{Building} is now
 Board walks in front of it where you
 could ^{go in} get a good meal another
 good ~~Restaurant~~ ^{was} adie johnson's
 on down the street. all oldies
 can remember it. I have ^{seen} told he
 used to cook in log camps.
 years before. I believe by end of
 1925 the the company had finished?
 and the big mill was idle. y.

There was a company I don't
 know their name. at neola, west ^{very}
 virginia who made wooden parts ^{our}
 for cars. Car wheels had wooden ^m
 spokes. at the time. there was
 a log Kill Building I remember
 it. the company closed down.
 Bank Bankpt maybe. another company
 decided to take over. this was
 1928 my dad took his Jones
 and logging equipment and men
 to meadow Creek. up Laurel

Run whitish flows in to meadow
 Creek. The old Railroad came up
 the creek and went up Jarrell
 Run. The Railroad was in
 bad Condition ties rotten. Train
 engine and log cars was off the
 track half the time. The
 former log Camps were still
 useable. another logger had
 a job at the same ^{place} a man
 who lived on Antanys Creek.
 Mr. Watson. we shared the
 same barn for our horses. This
 was during Prohibition times, and
 there had been a big business
 moonshining on Jarrell Run. we
 found brick furnaces in these
 hollows. They had a T model
 ford with a flat Bed built one
 it that ran on the Railroad
 track and hauled their liquor
 out on. It was said W.S. Marshels

was afraid to go up in this lawless place. there was no Road up the Run. Mr. Watson bought this little truck and we hauled our groceries to the camps on it.

The timber was no good on these jobs. but was promised good timber up Meadow Creek ^{where} we could make lots of money. 4 months this company was also Bank Rumpht we lost money ~~but~~ had to move back to Woodrow where ^{we} had bought a farm from Lee Rose. with a lot of good timber on it. we moved millions and piper's big mill to our place. Charles Safford my dad's brother he was an expert sawyer. and could set up a mill that you could saw true lumber on it

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Charles Galford my dad and me, and my ~~two~~ older brothers ran the big mill. Williams and Piper Company got our lumber blight hit the big Chestnut trees and 1929 all the big trees died what a loss. Chestnut trees before that did not have worms in it after that it was called sound wormy. we cut a lot of Chestnut lumber. and sold it ^{on} the side for \$15.00 a thousand. we had big stacks of lumber on stick when the stock market crashed. that was ~~that was~~ the end ~~of~~ our operation as well as a lot of others. we moved away from there and I don't know who got the mill after that.

I do know Williams had a mill
as late as the ¹⁹~~40~~⁵⁰s. ^{on} Upper
Camden. Close to Brunwick Hills.

It could have been the same
mill. A.C. Pifer and Son Normal
had a garage in the old opera
building. also had a car business
sold chrysler plymouth dodge cars
in the ~~1930 and~~ thirties.
a lot of changes since that.

Just some history
Clark C. Gaffon